

## MRS. PLACE, DOOMED, FINDS DIVERSION IN A NEEDLE.

Sews All Day Long in the Death Cell to Forget Herself.

TRIES HARD TO BE BRAVE.

New Jersey's Governor Makes a Plea to Roosevelt to Spare Her Life.



Mrs. Place Writing to the Journal.

The condemned woman sent a communication which appeared in the Journal yesterday. Here is an extract from it:

"If the Governor could be prevailed upon to commute my sentence, my future life, whether in the prison or living among my fellow citizens, will show that I am not a woman of the temperament which my accusers claim, and by my acts the community will see that I am endeavoring to live down the accusations and be a credit to the community."

"Through the Journal I have learned that the Governor is supposed to have made a statement that there is no sex in crime, but should not consideration be shown to a woman whose impulses misled her and whose life up to that time had been uneventful?"

No one from the outside world saw Mrs. Place yesterday in her death cell at Sing Sing. Early in the morning she asked Warden Sage if he would allow a needle and thread to be sent to her.

"I want to finish a shirt waist that I began some time ago," she said, "and sewing diverts my mind. What I don't want to do is to think about myself and grow melancholy."

The kind-hearted Warden consented. All day long the fingers of the condemned woman worked busily over what may be the last garment they ever make.

"Mrs. Place is tranquil," said Warden Sage yesterday. "But you can't exactly call her cheerful. I think she realizes her position, but tries hard to be brave and not to worry about it. She is very reticent in talking about her case. Even to the matron who has charge of her and who is her best friend, she has very little to say. She reads the papers every day and takes great interest in what they say about her chances of escaping the chair, but she never expresses her own opinion."

"She never goes to bed until nearly midnight. The matron tells me that she rests quietly, although that is a very different thing from saying that she sleeps well, for you never can tell whether or not about whom a death watch has been set really sleeps well."

Howard MacSherry, one of Mrs. Place's lawyers, went to Trenton yesterday to get a letter from Governor Voorhees, which he will take to Governor Roosevelt. The letter is written in behalf of the condemned prisoner.

### MILLIONAIRE'S SON

WILL SERVE AS JUROR.

Theodore A. Havemeyer, Jr., Tried to Get Excused, but Recorder Goff Is Firm.

Theodore A. Havemeyer, Jr., son of the millionaire sugar refiner, appeared before Recorder Goff yesterday. He was one of several persons fined \$100 for not appearing on Monday for jury duty. His lawyer, Jacob Pepper, accompanied him and presented an affidavit, in which Mr. Havemeyer stated that he was not a resident of this county. He said he lived in Hempstead, Nassau County, and was only assigned in New York City on personal property.

"What business are you in?" asked Recorder Goff.

"I manage my father's estate and his brokerage business."

He said he lived in Hempstead from May till January.

"Then you spend some months in the city," asked the Recorder.

"Yes; I rent a house here."

"Are residential purposes?"

"Yes."

"You'll serve as a juror," said the Recorder emphatically.

"All right," replied Mr. Havemeyer, "but I'd like to be excused to-day."

He was excused and the fine of \$100 remitted.



The Preacher Policeman in Trouble for Preaching.

Roundsman Nesbitt left his post in the Wakefield precinct to conduct a revival service in a Methodist church. For this he will have to stand trial.

## THREE OF HIS WIFE TO A JIMBS CELL

Had Expected to Meet Loving Arms, but Met Three Detectives.

WOMAN'S NAME IS "VERA."

"Heartbroken Husband" Says It Is a Synonym Not for Truth but Perfidy.

WED ON 2 DAYS' ACQUAINTANCE.

She Was an Actress; Spent All His Money, and When He Gave a Bad Check Betrayed Him to the Police.

"Christmas, 1897, married; Christmas, 1898, ruined!"

In these words Walter H. Wilbur, of Clinton, Iowa, summed up his career for the period mentioned in a letter to his wife last Christmas Day. He is now in the Tombs awaiting the arrival of an Iowa Sheriff, who will take him home for trial on a charge of issuing worthless checks.

Wilbur, who confesses to thirty-seven years of age, and doesn't look it, was one of the handsomest young men of Clinton, and was connected with some of the best families of that place. His downfall seems to have begun on Christmas Day, 1897, with his marriage to a member of a fly-by-night theatrical company whom he had only known two days, and on whom he spent while he lived with her, so he declares, as much as \$18,000. His story was told yesterday through the bars of the Tombs.

### CHAPTER I.

Young Wilbur was travelling through the South, he says, for pleasure during the Winter of 1897, when he met a theatrical troupe. There were thirty young women in the company when he encountered it, on the evening of December 23, at a town in South Carolina. At the time they all looked alike to him, and a composite photo pleased him so well that he followed on to the next place in which they were to appear, but in some way missed them.

On the following day, Christmas, he caught up with them at Spartanburg, S. C. They were willing to be caught and allowed the young man to buy them wine. That afternoon he took one member of the troupe out for a drive. The wine he had paid for made her, he declares, very fair in his eyes, and when she dared him to marry her, he accepted the dare. They were married that evening and the popping of champagne corks and libations of whiskey, "I was drunk," admitted Wilbur, apologetically, "but their every eye gets drunk in South Carolina on Christmas Day."

Last name of the woman he married Wilbur says "doesn't matter," but he added bitterly that her first name was Vera, which is popularly supposed to signify truth, though in her case it seemed a synonym for deceit and betrayal. She was young, only twenty-one, he says, and fond of the good things of life to the extent of wild extravagance. Last Summer she left him in spite of the money he had lavished upon her because he had no more to lavish. Then to gratify a longing for revenge Wilbur admits that he gave her brother, in-law a check for a considerable amount on the Central National Bank of Des Moines, Iowa, although he knew he only had a balance of sixty-five cents on deposit there. This he explained to her as an offense, as he only overdraw his account. He succeeded in obtaining money elsewhere and went to Canada, and later returned to the South. He had given the check in September, and on the Christmas following realizing that he was a very sick man and threatened with consumption, he began to write to her, reminding her that it was the anniversary of their wedding, that he was in a failing state, and imploring her to return to him and try to live on such scant means as he could afford. He did not give her his address, but begged her to answer through the personal column of a New York newspaper.

### CHAPTER II.

Late in January he saw a personal in the paper he had mentioned, and his heart gave a leap of joy for he believed the woman still loved him and longed for him as he longed for her. This was the person he had written to. He published her address next Sunday.

WALTER—Where can I meet you February 25? Publish your address next Sunday.

To this communication Wilbur replied by letter, renewing his expressions of affection and his entreaties that she should return to him. He added that he would meet her anywhere, he said within 500 miles of the place where she was. He answered by a personal, which should begin, "Dear Walter—"

"The '1' '2' '3' were to mean respectively, 'Will come back,' 'You can find me,' and 'I am in New York.' She was also to add the place and time of meeting."

One day last week he saw the following:—

WALTER—Where can I meet you February 25? Publish your address next Sunday.

That meant so much to him that he spent the intervening days in a state of great elation.

### CHAPTER III.

Last Sunday Wilbur made an especially careful toilet. He felt like a bridegroom again. He forgot, he says, all the suffering he had endured. He recalled his wife's pretty face as it had appeared on the day he first saw her. He was very much in love and not a little nervous as he entered the great damp corridor of the Post Office and began a hurried search for his Vera. He walked the Park from the Post Office to the upper Broadway end of the building and back, but it was Sunday and there was not a woman's sight. He did not notice in the midst of his disappointment that three men in a corner were watching his movements carefully and that they kept consulting with each other a photograph they had with them.

These men were Detectives Price and Kiernan, and Captain Superintendent Dougherty, of Pinkerton's agency, who, as soon as they were sure of their man, arrested the expectant husband.

Thus Wilbur found himself in the arms of the law instead of those of his Vera. She had sent the photograph of her husband and the necessary information to the police.

Wilbur says he will return to Iowa without awaiting extradition papers. He adds that he fears nothing from the law, but that his faith in woman is crushed forever.

### CHARGED WITH WIFE MURDER

Evidence That the Husband Intended to Throw Her Body from a Bridge.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 7.—Early yesterday morning the half-clad body of a woman was found on a bridge across the Cumberland in the outskirts of the city. Evidence pointed to preparations for throwing the body into the river. The body was identified as the wife of J. D. Clark, a lumber drummer, and Clark was arrested on a charge of murder.

Here's a dainty French novelty for the drawing room or parlor. The companion Passe-Partout to the one given away last Sunday. Free to everybody who inserts a paid "Want" ad. in next Sunday's Journal.

## WHEN GUEST CAME NOT A WIDOW TRIED SUICIDE.



Mrs. Sarah Tefft and the Scene of Her Attempted Suicide.

After spreading a table for two, and a evidently disappointed because the expected guest did not arrive, this rich woman shot herself in her home at Fordham. The doctors say she will probably recover.

Had Set a Table for Two and Waited with Lamp Burning.

RICH, BUT NOT HAPPY.

Mrs. Sarah Tefft's Life Had Been Full of Excitement and Dissipation.

MARRIED A HORSEMAN'S SON.

It Was at First Thought That Some One Had Attempted to Murder This Woman in Her Lonely Home.

Mrs. Sarah Tefft set the table for two, herself and one other, and when the other did not come telephoned her people an ambiguous message, telegraphed them "Grace is dead," and then shot herself. She is now at the Fordham Hospital and is expected to recover, though the bullet passed through just beneath her heart.

Mrs. Tefft is a widow of thirty-five, with a fortune of \$50,000 or \$60,000. She lives on Cole street, near Decatur avenue, Bedford Park, and it was at first supposed that somebody else had shot her. She also for a time encouraged this belief, but in an "ante-mortem" statement taken from her she thought she was about to die, she admitted that it was an attempt at suicide.

The person for whom that extra place at table was set is supposed to be a sporting character rather well known in the Tenderloin.

Mrs. Tefft and her husband, David Tefft, son of the rich old horse trader of Fordham, had been married for some time. On one occasion they both drank so much that they were taken to Bellevue Hospital in a comatose state. David Tefft died six months ago, and his widow, with his life insurance and the old family mansion, has been consulting herself in various unconventional ways.

She was at odds with her people because of her mode of life, and lived alone at the manor, though her sister, Grace Wilson, was sometimes with her, and the man above referred to was not infrequently a visitor. Sometimes she dined with him at the Waldorf and other fashionable hotels.

Not long ago she received a note from this man acknowledging the receipt of \$23,000 and demanding \$500 more, with a threat of trouble if the money was not forthcoming.

The case was full of mystery. When, on Monday night, Mrs. Tefft's mother and brother-in-law reached the house in respect to the case, they found the door locked. There was a light in the house, but they couldn't get in. They went for a policeman and when they returned the light was out. The door was open; there was still warm coffee on the table for two, and in an upper room lay Mrs. Tefft with a bullet wound in her breast, died from a revolver which lay on a table on the other side of the room. The doctors did not think she could have gone across the room after receiving such a wound and asked her who shot her.

At first she refused to say, then she intimated that she might have done it herself, and then she begged them to send word of her plight to William Ford.

At thirty-fifth street and Broadway, she answered.

At first the mystified police put her brother-in-law under nominal arrest, and were going to take the mother into custody as well, but decided not to do so. Yesterday Magistrate Pool decided that there were not sufficiently suspicious circumstances about the case to warrant any arrests, and it has been said Mrs. Tefft acknowledged to the Coroner that she had shot herself.

### CHAPLAIN CHIDWICK TO SPEAK

He Will Respond to the Toast "The Navy" at Manhattan's Alumni Dinner.

The thirty-third annual dinner of the Alumni Society of Manhattan College will be held to-night at the Hotel St. Denis, Broadway and Eleventh street. It is expected that the dinner will be the largest ever held by the society, 150 members of the society having signified their intention of being present.

Among the notable speakers who will respond to toast will be Chaplain John P. Chidwick, U. S. N., who will speak of "The Navy." Father Chidwick, who is of the class of '81, was on the Maine when she was blown up in Havana Harbor.

## HANNA ALARMED ABOUT SHERMAN.

Making Desperate Efforts to Bring Him Over to the Side of the Administration.

WOULD SEND HIM TO SPAIN

Anything Rather Than That He Should Appear as Counsel for General Miles.

WHY HE MUST BE PLACATED

Political Effect of His Threatened Move Is Feared, and There Was a Brain-Racking Search to Find a Place for Him.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The Administration is worried over the news published exclusively in last Sunday's Journal that ex-Secretary of State Sherman would be General Miles's senior counsel in the prospective court of inquiry, with James Hamilton Lewis and an army officer, unnamed, as assistants.

The President's advisors declare that the veteran Orlan must not be permitted to attract public attention in such a capacity. Naturally Senator Hanna is more disturbed than any one else, for not only will John Sherman's public espousal of General Miles's cause give it strength, in the opinion of thousands of old time Republicans and engender resentment against the Administration, but it will have a direct bearing on the Hanna-Forsaker fight in Ohio.

This struggle has already begun and will continue until the Ohio State Convention is held. Much of the antagonism to Hanna in Ohio is due to the treatment of Sherman in being shunted into the Cabinet to make room for Hanna. Hanna's appointment was shunted out of the Cabinet to make room for Day. Thus, aside from the Miles matter, there is a political effect of particular significance to Hanna in Sherman's appearance in an attitude hostile to the Administration.

The scheme is now to prevent the venerable statesman from ranging himself against Hanna and the Administration. In furtherance of the scheme he has been offered a post of dignity and importance—that of Commissioner to Spain pending the appointment of a regular Minister.

The danger to Hanna as an anti-Administration factor became apparent, Presidential advisers racked their brains to think of some place he could be offered without wounding his pride and that he could accept without loss of dignity.

The Commissioner to Spain was finally settled upon, and Senator Hanna, it is learned from excellent authority, called on Mr. Sherman within the last forty-eight hours and tendered him the place. It is understood that Mr. Hanna properly described the dignity and glory of such a post; that the bulk of the importance of duty of arranging details of commercial, reciprocal and extradition treaties with a country the United States had just declared in war; that he explained that the victorious nation always initiated such matters, and that some of America's greatest and most highly respected positions in the past.

The ex-Secretary, it is understood, has taken the matter under advisement, and while the Administration shiveringly awaits his decision. Some of the ex-Secretary's best friends have counselled him against accepting the post on the ground that by so doing he would be merely playing into his enemies' hands, and that no diplomatic honor could compensate him for the abandonment of his attitude of dignified protest against the

BOUND-UP WITH CUTTING ELASTIC BELTS AND LEG STRAPS.

Nearly every ruptured person will testify that the illustration shown below is no exaggeration. It tells the truth, but not the whole truth. Standing all this harnessing, such strains fall to hold completely and at all times, resulting in the



figure always getting worse. A truss which, at times, allows rupture to escape does more harm than good. It has taken the Charles Clute Co. of 24 East 14th st., New York City, nearly thirty years to perfect a system of trusses which, when applied to the body, leaves hips and spine free. No heavy belts. No leg straps; truss is waterproof, neat and clean. Write for circular or better, call on the company and learn why you are suffering unnecessarily, while their successful invention and service are within your reach.

### COMMODORE PHILIP IS FOR BOY'S BATTLE SHIP.

He Thinks the Plan Will Foster the Patriotism of School Pupils of Both Sexes.

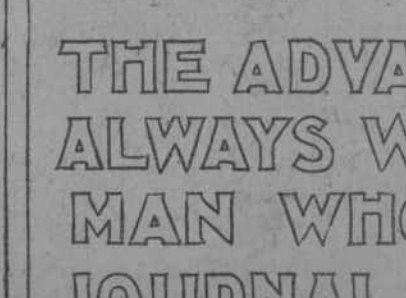
The committee in charge of the collection of subscriptions to build a battle ship to be called the "American Boy" and to present her to the Government is very much encouraged by the receipt of a letter from Commodore J. W. Philip endorsing the movement. The letter says:

"Your efforts to collect voluntary contributions for the construction of the battle ship American Boy should commend itself to all who have faith in the patriotism of the boys and girls of our country. The idea appeals with particular force to the officers and men of the United States Navy, for they see in it that belief and trust in the nation's sailors which is always an inspiration to deserve the confidence bestowed upon them."

The battle ship American Boy is finding much favor among the school boys and school girls of the country who are asked to build it, and in many schools subscription boxes have been placed. The girls, many of them, think it would be more gallant to call the vessel the "American Girl," but they stand in their penates and nickles all the same.



Be Sure to Demand, and See That You Get a



Don't neglect your "Chest Cold." Apply Benson's Plaster to chest; they ward off complications and promptly cure the cold. Price 25c. All Druggists. Write Dr. S. B. Benson, 4 Johnson, N.Y. (if not made name)

treatment he has received from the Administration. Mr. Sherman is aged, however, accustomed to public office, and it is thought by some and feared by others that he may desire to render one more public service before his final retirement.

Cigarette Light Cost His Life.

Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 7.—John Baggett, a bill poster at Smith's Auditorium, attempted to light a cigarette from a furnace at the theatre last night. A volume of flame burst into his face, and he fell back upon the floor in a faint. He was taken to the Emergency Hospital, where he was treated and then sent to his room at the Coffee House. This morning he was found dead. The cause which had inhaled had burned him so seriously that death resulted. Baggett has a cousin in this city who will give him a respectable burial.

## AGE MARKS

Why do you sit calmly and just let your hair all fall out or get gray and do nothing to stop it? Is this common sense? Not a bit of it. No need of losing your hair in this way. And there is no need of your looking old before your time, either. The hair may be preserved and made beautiful by giving it the food found in—

Ital-ways restores color to gray or faded hair. Your hair may have all the dark, rich color of early life. Then why not have it so?

\$1.00 a bottle. All Druggists.

"Your Hair Vigor makes my hair soft and glossy just as it was when I was a girl. I recommend it to every one who has gray hair because it brings back the natural color."

Mrs. EZZELINE BROWN, Clinton, Maine, Aug. 17, 1898.

Write the Doctor. He will send you a book on The Hair and Scalp Free. If you do not obtain all the benefits you expected from the use of the Vigor write the Doctor about it. Address: Dr. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

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